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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Thierry CHAPUS *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/780,418

Filed: February 12, 2001



Examiner: Walter Dean Griffin

Group Art Unit: 1764

For: **PROCESS AND APPARATUS EMPLOYING A PLURALITY OF CATALYTIC BEDS IN SERIES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LOW SULPHUR GAS OIL**

**R E P L Y**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action of June 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application and consider the remarks as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

~~Please amend the claims as follows:~~

1. (Amended) A process for hydrodesulphurising a kerosene and/or a gas oil cut, comprising:

at least one first hydrodesulfurization step a) in which said kerosene and/or gas oil cut and hydrogen are passed over a catalyst disposed in a fixed bed comprising on a mineral support, at least one metal or compound of a metal from group VIB of the periodic table in a quantity, expressed as the weight of the metal with respect to the weight of the finished catalyst, of about 0.5% to 40%, at least one non noble metal or compound of a non noble metal from group VIII of said periodic table in a quantity, expressed as the weight of the metal with respect to the weight of the finished catalyst, of about 0.1% to 30%, and

b) at least one subsequent second step b) in which a gas fraction containing a portion of the resultant hydrogen sulphide contained in the total effluent from said first hydrodesulfurization step a) and an effluent that is partially depleted in hydrogen sulphide are recovered,

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